



ECHOD

PARSHAT VAYERA • 15 CHESHVAN 5774 • OCTOBER 18-19, 2013
CANDLE LIGHTING: 5:54PM

Shaul Robinson
Rabbi
Sherwood Goffin
Senior Cantor
Yanky Lemmer
Cantor
Elana Stein Hain
Community Scholar
Ben Keil
Executive Director

Friday Evening

5:54pm: Candle Lighting
6:00pm: Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat led by **Chazzan Yanky Lemmer**

Shabbat Day

7:45am: Hashkama Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash followed by Kiddush and shiur with **Rabbi Moshe Sokolow**
9:00am: Services in the Nathaniel Richman Cohen Main Sanctuary led by **Chazzan Yanky Lemmer**
Post-Musaf Drasha by **Community Scholar Elana Stein Hain**
9:15am: Beginners Service in room LL201 (Lower Level)
9:30am: Youth Breakfast
9:45am: Teen Minyan in Room 210 followed by a teen Kiddush
9:45am: Rabbi Herschel Cohen Memorial Minyan in the Belfer Beit Midrash. Drasha by **Dr. Ben Elton: In the Heat of the Day**
9:55am: Latest Shema

Shabbat Afternoon

4:00pm: Bikur Cholim Meet in front of LSS. New volunteers are needed.
4:15pm: Beginners Mishna Chavura with **Lloyd Epstein** in the Belfer Beit Midrash
4:45pm: Bible Class with **Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald** in room 211
4:45pm: Talmud Class with **Dr. Ben Elton: Is there a mitzvah to visit the sick?**
5:45pm: Mincha followed by Seudah Shlishit, during which Rabbi Shaul Robinson will give a special talk titled "*The Cattle Prod Scandal*" - Physical Violence and Forcing a Get
6:53pm: Maariv/Havdalah

Thank you to our volunteer Security Guards, Greeters, and Ushers this Shabbat

Thank You to Our Shabbat Kiddush Sponsors

Hashkama Kiddush

Sponsored by **Gary and Alisa Adler** in memory of **Ferdinand Landau, Yehuda ben Gershon HaLevi, z"l**, on the conclusion of the saying Kaddish since his passing and in gratitude to **Sam Horwitz** for saying Kaddish in his memory; and in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of Alisa's brother, **Richard Adler, Yisrael Yitzchak ben Dan, z"l**.

Main Kiddush

Co-sponsored by **Gale and Steven Spira** in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of Steven's mother, **Molly Spira, a"l**; and by **Lorraine Kaufman** in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of her brother, **David Kaufman, z"l**; and by friends of **Shirley and Mark Wald** in continued celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Beginners Kiddush

Sponsored by **Lou and Ilene Vynerib** in loving memory of Lou's father, **Moshe ben Eliezer haCohen, z"l** and Ilene's mother, **Sima bat Meir, a"l**; and Happy Birthday to our granddaughters **Yehudis and Malka Sima Adler**.

Seudah Shlishit

Sponsored by **Mark Hus & Shirley Stark** and **Susan Stark** in commemoration of the yahrtzeit of Shirley and Susan's mother, **Hanna Stark, a"l**.

Mazal Tov To Our Members

- ◆ Mazal Tov to **Ruth Cogan** on the Bar Mitzvah of her great-grandson **Ori Machlas**, son of **Avi and Elisheva Machlis** in Israel.

As we get to the end of the calendar year, please make sure that your 2013 membership dues are paid in full. Log in at the shul website, lss.org, or call the office at 212-874-6100 to make a payment.

Welcome to Our New Members

Ms. Meryl Davidoff

Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Polina Liberman
Rabbi Jay Stein

Welcome to all those who are joining us for the Epic NCSY Shabbaton!

Lost and Found Announcement

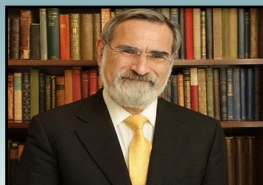
We have several items that have been returned to the LSS main office since the High Holidays. These include books, sunglasses, scarves, sweaters, and more. If you misplaced anything, please email info@lss.org so that we can return these items to their owners.

Weekday Prayer Schedule

Mincha/Ma'ariv: Sun-Thu at 5:50 pm

Sun	Mon & Thur	Tues, Wed, & Fri
Shacharit: 7:10am	Daf Yomi: 6:15am	Daf Yomi: 6:20am
Daf Yomi: 7:45am	Shacharit: 7:00am	Shacharit: 7:10am
Shacharit: 8:30am	Shacharit: 7:50am	Shacharit: 7:50am

Next Shabbat, October 25-26
Lincoln Square Synagogue Welcomes



British Chief Rabbi Emeritus
Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks
See page 3 for more details

Youth Announcements

Youth Groups Shabbat Schedule

Youth Breakfast at 9:30
Pre-K: 10:00 am — room 208
K and 1st grade: 10:00 am — room 207
2nd-4th Grade: 10:00 am — room 206
Teen Minyan: 9:45am — room 210

LSS Youth Needs You

To sponsor a youth department event or to run a program for LSS youth please contact **Edina Silver** at esultanik@yahoo.com

The LSS Math Circle resumes for the 2013-2014 school year

The LSS Math Circle is dedicated to expanding, deepening, and disseminating mathematical knowledge. It is a place to learn mathematics and meet others with like interests. Open to children 4th grade and up, it meets from 6-8pm on Mondays. The next session is on 10/21. Contact Harvey Stein (hjstein@gmail.com) for details.

Tween Minyan

Tween Minyan (5th-8th grade) will be davening in the main shul this Shabbat. Keep listening throughout the davening for Parsha related quizzes and prizes!

WEEKLY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES with THE JOSEPH SHAPIRO INSTITUTE

SUNDAY

- Midrash on the Upcoming Parsha
Dr. Ben Elton • 9:15am

MONDAY

- Hebrew Reading Crash Course, Levels I and II • 6:30-8:00pm.
See Beginners Announcements for more information

TUESDAY

- Parsha class
Rabbi Shaul Robinson • 10:30 am
- Introduction to Bible
Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald • 6:30pm-8:00pm.
See Beginners Announcements for more information
- War and Peace: Jewish Morality in the IDF
Community Scholar Elana Stein Hain • 7:15pm • This 4-week series focuses on the underpinnings of the Israel Defense Forces' moral code of combat. We will study the relationship between this code (*known as tohar ha-nesheq, purity of arms*) and Jewish law. Future classes: Oct. 22, Oct. 29, and Nov. 5. **Nov. 12: Series Finale**
Guest Speaker: Rabbi Shalom Hammer (*See upcoming Events on page 3 for details*)
- Intermediate Talmud Shiur
Rabbi Josh Rosenfeld • 7:45 pm • At the home of Marion and Maurice Spanbock
- Tuesday Beit Midrash Night • 8:15-9:15pm • *Chavurot led by shul members:*
 - ◇ Tanach Survey: The Books of Samuel and Kings. Led by **Marcy Zwecker** and **Robyn Mitchnick**. The growth and travails of the first Israeli kingdom. This group hopes to learn all of Prophets, 2 chapters per session.
 - ◇ The Subversive Religious Poetry of Yehuda Amichai. Led by **Sara Brzowsky**. The great Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai frequently uses language and metaphors derived from Tanach and Jewish prayer, often in an ambiguous or ironic way. We will read together and explore the meaning of poems in the collection "*Open Closed Open*."

Tuesday Beit Midrash Night(Cont.)

- ◇ The First Book of Samuel: Politics and Kingship. Led by **Ron Platzer**. Anointer of kings. A king who was not always a king. A boy who became a king. Samuel, Saul, David. A great story. Complex characters. A subtle, sophisticated text.
- ◇ Jewish Living Workshop • 8 pm • Led by **Dassah and Bill Greenbaum** • For people who are interested in learning about practical Judaism. Email jlworkshop@yahoo.com to join.

WEDNESDAY

- Nach b'lyun: Shofetim
Rabbi Hayyim Angel • 7:15-8:15pm • Sefer Shofetim. The shiur is free. *Suggested sponsorship \$360.*
- Talmudic Methodology
Rabbi Dennis Weiss • 7:30pm • An in-depth look at a single complex Talmudic subject matter, starting from the relevant biblical texts and delving into the logic system of the Gemara. This year's topic will be "Retribution-in-Kind: A Study of Eidim Zomimim." The shiur is geared to conceptualizing Talmudic disputes and enabling the attendee to generate the questions asked by Rishonim and Achronim.
- Wednesday Beit Midrash Night • 8:15-9:15 pm • *Chavurot led by shul members:*
 - ◇ Yiddish Writings of the Rav. Led by **Moshe Sheinwexler**. Study the rare Yiddish works of **Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik**, the great halachist and Orthodox Jewish thinker.
 - ◇ *New for Young Professionals!* Jewish Literacy 101: A Journey Through Jewish Intellectual History.
Rabbi Eitan Bendavid, Topic #3: "*The Clash Between Science and Religion*" • 8:45pm • At LSS, second floor
Contact Eitanbendavid@gmail.com for more information.

THURSDAY

- The Jacob Adler Parsha Class
Rabbi Shaul Robinson • 7pm.

Beginners Announcements

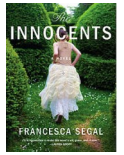
- You may still register for Rabbi Buchwald's **Introduction to Bible** (Began **Tuesday, October 1st, 6:30-8:00pm**). This course, which meets for another **5 weeks** provides a general overview of the content and style of the Bible. We will review basic literary and theological approaches to Bible study, traditional and modern, through the analysis of the Biblical text. **To register, please call 212-874-6100 or register online at www.beginners.lss.org. Cost: \$90, Free to LSS Members. No one will be turned away for lack of funds.**
- **Hebrew Reading Crash Course Level I** began **Monday, October 14th at 6:30 pm**. The class meets for 1½ hours, for 4 more weeks, and is free and open to all.
- **Hebrew Reading Crash Course Level II** began **Monday, October 14th at 6:30 pm**. The class meets for 1½ hours, for 4 more weeks, and is free and open to all. Register for any of our Hebrew Reading classes at www.beginners.lss.org.
- The next session of the **Jewish Living Workshop** led by **Dassa and Bill Greenbaum** will be this **Tuesday, October 22nd, 8pm**. The workshop is free; register at JLworkshop@yahoo.com. **Topic: Putting up a Mezuzah.**
- Save the date! The next **Beginners Luncheon** will be **Shabbat, November 2nd**. The cost is still only \$20. Please make your reservations by **Wednesday, October 30th**. You can register online at www.beginners.lss.org or call **212-874-6100**.
- Save the date! **Monday, November 4th, 8:15-9:30PM**, there will be a **Beginners Schmooze**. No charge, complimentary refreshments. **Please call 212-874-6100 to confirm.**

Upcoming Events in October

Saturday, Motzei Shabbat, October 19

Book Club Meeting • 7:30pm • In the home of **Martine and Jack Schenker**

The LSS Book Club looks forward to another season of intense book discussion starting with the award winning book "The Innocents" by Francesca Segal. **Rabbi Robinson** and/or **Sarah Robinson** will lead the discussion.



Sunday, October 20

Screening of *Srugim*, Season 3. Episodes 4,5, and 6. 7:00pm. \$10 per showing, \$40 for advance package of all 5 nights. The other screening dates for *Srugim*, Season 3 are Nov. 3, Nov. 17, and Nov. 24

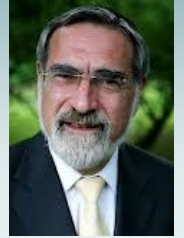


Shabbat, October 25-26

Join us for an extraordinary Shabbat with **British Chief Rabbi Emeritus Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks**.

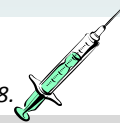
- Friday night Sponsor's Dinner, 7:30pm: Intimate 4-course Friday Night Dinner at Mike's Bistro with **Rabbi Lord Jonathan and Lady Elaine Sacks**. Includes delectable sit-down dinner and intimate discussion. \$250 per person- Space is very limited so reserve your seat promptly via our website.
- Shabbat morning: Drasha following Musaf
- Shabbat afternoon: 4:45pm - **Rabbi Robinson** interviews **Rabbi Sacks**, including Q and A

Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks is a global religious leader, philosopher, the author of more than 25 books, and moral voice for our time. Until 1st September 2013 he served as Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, having held the position for 22 years.



Wednesday, October 30

Free Flu Shots • 3-6pm • Administered by St. Lukes Roosevelt Hospital • Room 207 • *Must be over 18.*



Upcoming Events in November and December

Shabbat, November 1-2

LSS Hospitality Shabbaton for Members. Be a Guest • Be a Host • Be a part of it. Just pick a meal, share it, and make new friends. Sign up now at lss.org/hospitality or call the shul office at 212-874-6100 for details.



Shabbat, November 2

Beginners Luncheon • See *Beginners Announcements* for details.

Monday, November 4

Beginners Schmooze • 8:15pm-9:30pm • See *Beginners Announcements* for details.

Saturday, November 9

Film Screening "Torn" • 7:00pm • \$10



Saturday, Motzei Shabbat, November 2

Tween Movie Night at LSS for 5th-8th graders. • 7:15pm • We'll be showing a movie and pizza and refreshments will be served. *The cost is \$10.* To reserve a spot, please email avi@lss.org.

Monday, November 11

BLISS Relationship Seminar led by the highly regarded **Rabbi Stephen Baars** • 7:30pm • Seven session relationship workshop • *The first class is free, the entire seven week series is \$127.* Improve your marriage and your parenting.



Friday Night, November 8

Tween Oneg • 6:30pm • The Buller home. Open to 5th-8th graders. Please RSVP to avi@lss.org

Tuesday, November 12

Rabbi Shalom Hammer will share his inspirational story of how his having served under the Rabbinate of the IDF changed his life. He will share the most vital criteria for serving in the Israeli army and how ignoring these fundamentals could compromise the physical and spiritual strength of the Jewish nation. • \$10 in advance/ \$15 at the door, percentage of proceeds go to the IDF.



Friday, November 15

Oneg following services with **Mrs. Surale Rosen**, head of Matan Talmud Scholars Program.

Shabbat, November 16

AIPAC Director of Policy and Government Affairs, **Brad Gordon** will speak at Seudah Shlishit following Mincha.



Sunday, November 17

Global Day of Jewish Learning Event Sponsored by **Chavie Kahn** and **Heshy Kofman** in commemoration of the 21st yahrtzeit of Chavie's father, **Rabbi Solomon Kahn, z"l.** *More details coming soon.*

Shabbat, November 22-23

Beginners Chanukah Shabbaton

Monday, December 2

Beginners Chanuka Bash

Saturday, Motzei Shabbat, December 7

Inaugural Jewish Music and Cantorial Concert featuring our new Chazzan **Yanky Lemmer** with **Senior Chazzan Sherwood Goffin** and **Cantor Netanel Hershtik** • 8:00pm • Reception by Prime Catering to follow.



\$100 & \$50. \$500 Sponsorship includes two premium reserved seats. LSS is partnering with [Israel Bonds](http://IsraelBonds.com) to offer one complimentary concert ticket to the first 50 purchasers of a new Israel Bond online after October 16, with a minimum purchase of \$54.

For more information or to register for these events, check out our website at lss.org

Vayera takes us through Abraham's encounter with the angels, the announcement of the birth of Yitzchak, the confrontation between Hashem and Sodom, Lot's daughters, the birth of Yitzchak, and the expulsion of Yishmael. The sedrah concludes with the Akeidah;

וַיְהִי אַחֲרֵי הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה וְהָאֱלֹקִים נִסָּה אֶת אַבְרָהָם וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו אַבְרָהָם וַיֹּאמֶר הִנְנִי וַיֹּאמֶר
קַח גֵּא אֶת בְּנֶךָ אֶת יִחִידְךָ אֲשֶׁר אֶהְבֶּתָּ אֶת יִצְחָק וְלֶךְ לְךָ אֶל אֶרֶץ מֹרְיָה וְהַעֲלֵהוּ שָׁם לְעֹלָה עַל
אֶחָד הַהָרִים אֲשֶׁר אָמַר אֵלֶיךָ:

After these events Hashem tested Abraham. "Abraham!" He said. "Yes." "Take your son, the only one you love - Isaac - and go away to the Moriah area. Bring him as an all-burned offering on one of the mountains that I will designate to you."

The Divine commands and Abraham's response are terrifying. How can the Divine, benevolent Creator of the world, request his most devoted follower to forego the caring that was demonstrated when Abraham pled for the righteous of Sodom - and then murder his own son. This Divine test negates the very act of man's creation, for clearly mankind was created with instinctual compassion for its children.

This "test" has led some observers to claim that Hashem tested Abraham, and he failed the test. He should have protested the Divine decree and, as Moses was to do in the future, pray for the Jewish people that Hashem promised to be fulfilled through Isaac.

Our Sages are well aware of the horror of the narrative. The theme of the sacrifice of Isaac is mentioned many times in our prayers. It is used as a tool to persuade Hashem to have mercy on us. It is as if we are saying "You owe us". It is a central theme in the High Holiday service.

Those of us who read the Akeidah portion every day in the *siddur*, include an introductory paragraph and a concluding paragraph. The introductory paragraph contains the text;

זָכוֹר לָנוּ ה' אֱלֹקֵינוּ אֶהְבֶּת הַשְּׂדֵמוֹנִים אַבְרָהָם וְיִשְׂרָאֵל עַבְדֶּיךָ, אֶת הַבְּרִית וְאֶת
הַחֶסֶד וְאֶת הַשְּׁבוּעָה שֶׁנִּשְׁבַּעְתָּ לְאַבְרָהָם אֲבִינוּ בְּהַר מֹרְיָה, וְאֶת הָעֶקֶדָה שֶׁעָקַד אֶת
יִצְחָק בְּנוֹ עַל גְּבִי הַמִּזְבֵּחַ, כִּכְתוּב בְּתוֹרָתְךָ:

Remember on our behalf - Hashem our Lord - the love of our Patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Israel Your servants; the covenant, the kindness and the oath that You swore to our father Abraham at Mount Moriah, and the Akeidah, when he bound his son Isaac on the altar, as it is written in the Torah ...

The concluding paragraph continues the theme;

זָכוֹר לָנוּ בְּרִית אֲבוֹתֵינוּ. כְּמוֹ שֶׁכָּבַשׁ אַבְרָהָם אֲבִינוּ אֶת רַחֲמָיו מִבֶּן יְחִידוֹ, וְרָצָה לְשַׁחוֹת
אוֹתוֹ כְּדִי לַעֲשׂוֹת רְצוֹנְךָ, כֵּן יִכְבְּשׁוּ רַחֲמֶיךָ אֶת כַּעַסְךָ מֵעָלֵינוּ...

Remember for our sake the covenant of our forefathers. Just as Abraham our forefather suppressed his mercy for his only son and wished to slaughter him in order to do Your will, so may Your mercy suppress Your anger at us...

Why does the concept of the Akeidah still resonate with us over the millennia. Many have suggested that the event serves to contrast the Jewish teaching forbidding human sacrifice with the actions of the neighboring cultures of Abraham's time. If that is the case, why are we moved by the narrative today, when such behavior is ostensibly rare.

The answer may lie in the fact that the Jewish people have been energized by the concept of our children being dedicated to following the will of Hashem. Throughout the generations, most parents have not assimilated or converted their children in order to improve their physical comforts, but have raised their children as individuals who would maintain the tradition of their ancestors. They have dedicated the future of their children to sustaining the mission given to Abraham, our father. This dedication of our children is also exemplified by the willingness of Israeli Jews, both religious and secular, to defend their country, and not pursue the tantalizing but vacuous dream of leaving embattled Israel, and assimilating into other cultures. This has been a persistent characteristic of the Jewish people throughout the ages, and it perhaps explains the large role that Abraham's sacrifice plays in the ethos of the Jewish people.

May we use the reading of the Akeidah as an inspiration to bring on the ultimate redemption of Israel and the Jewish people.

שבת שלום